

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AID-20 EB-11 NSC-10 RSC-01 CIEP-02

TRSE-00 SS-15 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02 PRS-01 RSR-01 L-03

H-02 /092 W

----- 039993

R 101028Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9169

USDOC WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 4145

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, PFOR, TW

SUBJECT: JOINT US-ROC ECONOMIC CONFERENCE

1. MINISTER OF FINANCE K.T. LI HAS INFORMALLY SUGGESTED TO ADCM AN ANNUAL GRC/US ECONOMIC CONFERENCE MEETING ALTERNATELY IN US AND ROC WITH SMALL PERMANENT ORGANIZATION BOTH IN TAIWAN AND IN US TO SERVE AS SECRETARIAT BETWEEN CONFERENCES. LI SAID THAT NEW ORGANIZATION WOULD SEEK TO FURTHER STRENGTHEN ECONOMIC RELATIONS BETWEEN US AND ROC, TO MAP OUT PLANS FOR US INDUSTRY PARTICIPATION IN LARGE PROJECTS IN TAIWAN AND POSSIBLY TO PLAN JOINT VENTURES DESIGNED TO PRODUCE FOR THE ASIAN MARKET.

2. LI MADE CLEAR THAT HE WAS NOT THINKING OF A NEW JOINT ECONCOM ON JAPANESE MODEL, BUT HAD IN MIND AN ESSENTIALLY PRIVATE ORGANIZATION WITH BLESSING OF BOTH GOVERNMENTS. LI STRESSED THAT HE WAS SPEAKING UNOFFICIALLY AND NOTED THAT DETAILS SUCH AS FINANCING HAD NOT EVEN BEEN CONSIDERED. HE FELT SURE, HOWEVER, THAT MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND CENTRAL BANK OF CHINA, CONFIDENTIAL

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IN ADDITION TO THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE, WOULD BE INTER-

ESTED.

3. COMMENT: IT IS OBVIOUS THAT LI'S IDEA IS ONLY IN
SKELETON FORM SO FAR. WE NOTE, HOWEVER, THAT JULY 10 UNITED
DAILY NEWS CARRIES EDITORIAL SUPPORTING ESTABLISHMENT OF
A SIMILAR "SINO-AMERICA ECONOMIC COOPERATION COMMISSION"
WHICH MAY DERIVE FROM LI'S IDEA.
MCCONAUGHY

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NNN

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